

CIRPA NEWS



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President's Message



**Cameron Tilson,
CIRPA President**

Dear colleagues,

Hope spring has finally sprung wherever you are in the country! After a winter that definitely overstayed its welcome and after a long academic year, I trust you are looking forward to a less frenetic pace.

The past few months have been busy on the CIRPA front: planning is well underway for CIRPA 2011 in Fredericton; our co-chairs Elizabeth Lane and Garry Hansen and committee members are working hard to put together an outstanding program and special events.

The Board's spring meeting was held in Fredericton in late April, and I can tell you that I am delighted with the

city and venue; the Lord Beaverbrook Hotel is situated right on the riverfront and in close proximity to plenty of amenities; warm Maritime hospitality is another bonus. So plan to come to our 20th annual conference!

By the time you see this newsletter, our new website will be very close to being launched – it has been a lot of hard work (but well worth it). We have been a little behind in our scheduling, owing to unanticipated delays – however, we felt that a slow and steady roll-out made the most sense. Moving forward, there will be additional features and functionality added (for example, online payments) which will make life easier for everyone.

In early spring, there are also nominations and elections to consider; this year is particularly packed with the terms of seven positions up for grabs. It was particularly gratifying to see so many candidates for the two Member-at-Large positions (and new faces too!). So next time around, why not consider running for a position on the Board? It's a great experience.

Members of the Board have also been working on several initiatives flowing out of our strategic plan: a professional development needs analysis; governance and constitution/by-laws review; conference planning template, and development of a code of professional ethics (of course, implementation of the new website is also a strategic direction).

“Be assured that CIRPA will be here to support you in your professional development needs as we move into the future. (...) ‘We’re all in this together.’”

You will know that 2011 marks our 20th anniversary (which of course, underpins this year's conference theme “Looking Forward”).

To get the ball rolling on “looking forward” on the future state of institutional research and planning in Canada, consider the following:

CIRPA's membership grew markedly the past seven years or so from under 150 to a steady state of around 240 (our highest ever was 258). I'm convinced there is still more room for growth (300?). Our past three conferences averaged 185 delegates, whereas we used to feel pleased attracting 130.

Additionally, there are an ever-increasing number of "hot-button" issues to consider, including continued growth of enrolment (driven by participation) despite a declining demographic of "traditional" post-secondary aged youth. However, growth is unevenly distributed across the country and among certain groups – some regions are looking at contraction while others have issues of insufficient institutional capacity.

There are the ongoing issues of assessment, quality measurement, retention, increased internationalization and what else is new -- budgetary pressures!

Plenty to consider – and guess what, it's analytical and planning folks, that will play a major role in helping our institutions navigate these waters. And be assured that CIRPA will be here to support you in your professional development needs as we move into the future. To quote one of my favorite comedians (Red Green) "we're all in this together."

Best regards,



Cameron Tilson, Concordia University
President, CIRPA-ACPRI



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**LOOKING
FORWARD**

Institutional Research and Planning
in Canada: The Next Twenty Years

**OCT 23 - 25, 2011
Fredericton, NB**

*Sample the unique
culture and warmth of
Canada's East Coast.*

<http://www.cirpa-acpri.ca>



The Canadian Institutional Research and Planning Association's 20th Annual Conference

October 23 - 25, 2011
Fredericton, New Brunswick

Keynotes include Dr Munir Sheikh,
Former Chief Statistician, Statistics Canada.

<http://www.cirpa-acpri.ca>

Conference Update

Garry Hansen (St. Thomas University), CIRPA 2011 Local Arrangements Chair

Plans are well underway for the CIRPA 2011 conference, to be held October 23-25 at the Crowne Plaza Lord Beaverbrook Hotel in Fredericton, New Brunswick. While the annual CIRPA conference is always an excellent opportunity for professional development and networking, this year's conference promises to be particularly special, since it not only marks the first time the conference has been held in New Brunswick, but also the twentieth anniversary of the first CIRPA conference in 1991.

The conference organizers have recognized this landmark occasion with the conference theme -- "Looking Forward -- Institutional Research and Planning in Canada: The Next Twenty Years" -- and a planned special panel reflecting on CIRPA's history and future. In fact, the organizing committee, which includes members from throughout Atlantic Canada, has been working for almost two years to ensure that CIRPA 2011 is a landmark conference in every sense. As Conference Chair Elizabeth Lane noted, "The city is beautiful, the venue is fantastic, and we are planning to put together a program of exceptional sessions, panels, keynotes, and workshops. We're counting on CIRPA members to share their expertise and research interests -- to respond to the call for proposals

and encourage their colleagues to do the same."

Keynote speakers for the conference include Dr. Munir Sheikh, former Chief Statistician of Canada and currently Distinguished Fellow and Adjunct Professor at Queen's University, and James Knight, President and CEO of the Association of Canadian Community Colleges and Chair of the World Federation of Colleges and Polytechnics. Award-winning architect and author John Leroux will also offer an entertaining and fascinating view of the architectural history of Fredericton and New Brunswick.



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Institutional Research and Planning
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As local arrangements chair, I'm looking forward to the opportunity to showcase Fredericton and the Maritimes. We chose the historic Lord Beaverbrook Hotel not only because it is an attractive venue and just the right size for our conference, but because of its central location in the heart of the city's beautiful downtown. The Lord Beaverbrook borders the Saint John River and is framed by Fredericton's famous walking and biking trails, next door to the Beaverbrook Art Gallery, across the street from the Provincial Legislature and the Fredericton Playhouse, and within steps of shopping. It also happens to be in

the heart of Fredericton's restaurant district. There might even be a few pubs around.

Delegates will also have an opportunity to enjoy some famous Maritime hospitality during the CIRPA Social Night at the picturesque King's Head Inn. This 1855 inn is nestled among over 70 historic 19th century buildings in the Kings Landing Historical Settlement, twenty minutes outside Fredericton. After hors d'oeuvres and cocktails, conference goers will savour a meal of Maritime fare served by costumed staff in the unique setting of the Inn, complete with flickering candlelight. After

dinner, they can partake in a guided one-hour lantern tour of part of the historical Village, take a ride on a wagon, dance to the fiddles and bodrum in a Maritime Kitchen Party, or retire to taste a local brew in the Inn's Simeon Jones Room, named after

a famous New Brunswick brew master.

Plan to attend CIRPA 2011, and consider contributing to the success of the conference by answering the call for proposals. For further details, watch for the full conference website, which will be online soon.



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in Canada: The Next Twenty Years



CIRPA 2011 Call for Proposals

Looking Forward: The Next Twenty Years of Institutional Research and Planning in Canada

The Canadian Institutional Research and Planning Association is hosting its 20th annual conference in Fredericton, New Brunswick on 23-25 October, 2011. CIRPA convenes annually as a community of professionals dedicated to institutional research and planning in the post-secondary education sector. CIRPA welcomes proposal submissions from professionals in the field; proposals from colleagues at provincial, regional and federal agencies, other associations and organizations, as well as from individual scholars with research interests in post-secondary education issues.

In light of the 20th anniversary of CIRPA, the theme for the 2011 conference *is Looking Forward: The Next Twenty Years of Institutional Research and Planning in Canada*. It is intended to encourage submissions that address the conceptual, methodological and practical challenges and opportunities in everyday practices of institutional research and planning. It is our hope that the collective submissions and presentations for the 2011 conference will stimulate new conversations and an exchange of ideas that will move the profession forward and chart directions for future IR and planning development. Returning presenters and potential first-time presenters are all encouraged to submit.

We are very pleased to announce that Keynote speakers will include Dr. Munir Sheikh, former Chief Statistician of Canada and currently Distinguished Fellow and Adjunct Professor at Queen's University, and Mr. James Knight, President and CEO of the Association of Canadian Community Colleges and Chair of the World Federation of Colleges and Polytechnics.

CIRPA 2011 is a major milestone in CIRPA's history and you do not want to miss it! We look forward to receiving your submissions and seeing you in Fredericton!

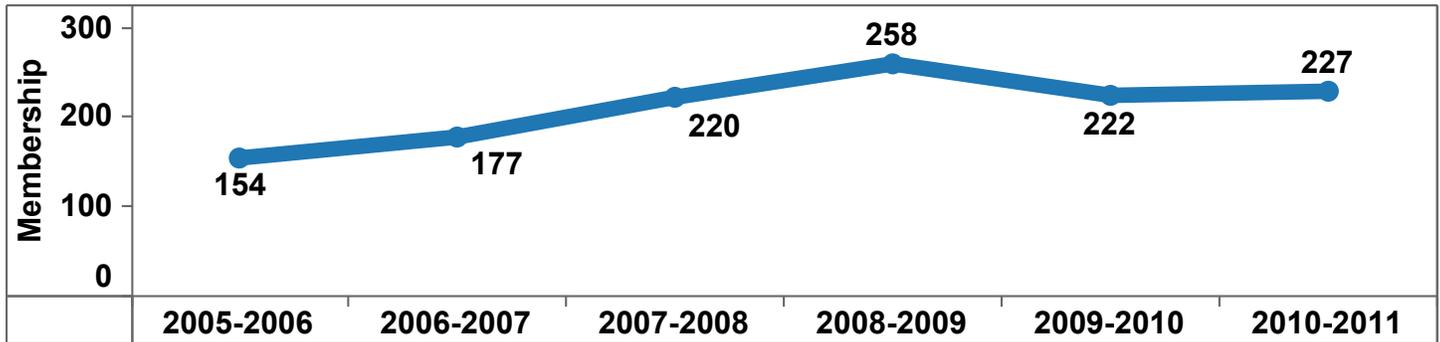
Ms. Elizabeth Lane, Conference Chair

Dr. Yuqin Gong, Conference Program Committee Chair

Proposal deadline: Friday, June 10, 2011

CIRPA Membership Statistics

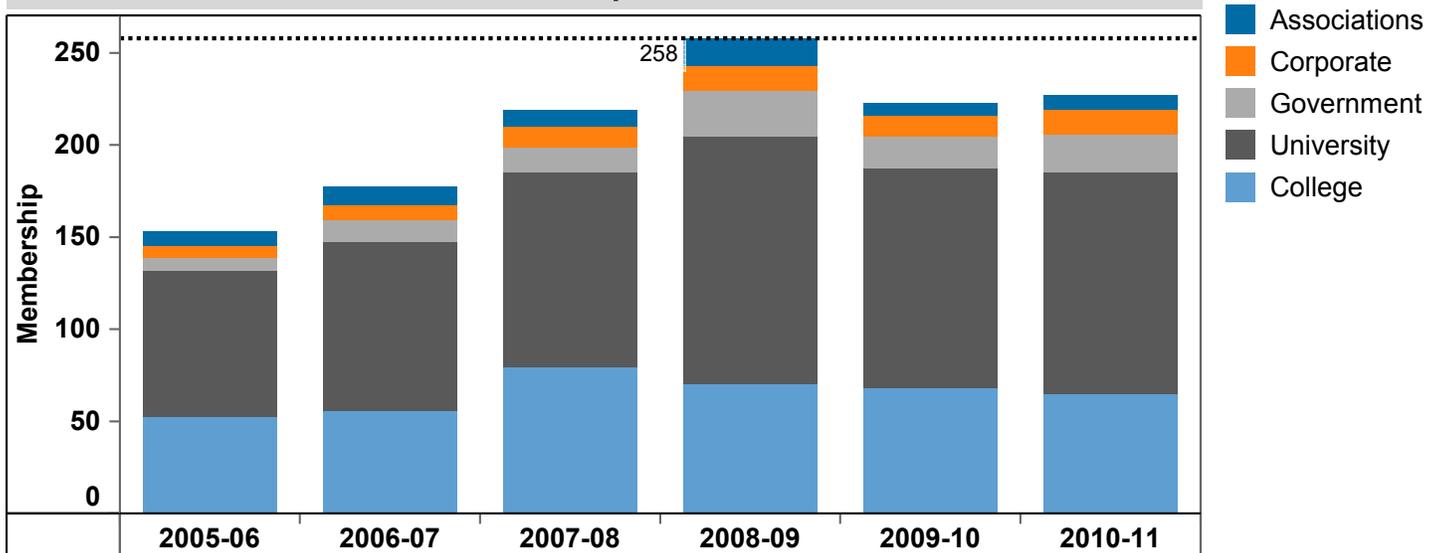
Total Membership 2005-2006 to 2010-2011



Membership by Province

Province	2005-2006	2006-2007	2007-2008	2008-2009	2009-2010	2010-2011
ON	42	83	79	96	62	99
AB	41	23	38	38	52	32
BC	20	15	21	26	33	27
QC	14	15	22	38	16	16
NS	9	5	12	13	12	15
MB	3	6	9	11	11	12
SK	12	12	15	18	15	11
NB	4	4	5	6	7	6
NL	4	7	13	6	7	4
PEI	1	1	1	1	1	1
NWT	0	0	0	0	1	1
YK	1	0	1	1	1	0
NU	0	0	0	0	0	0
Outside Canada	3	6	4	4	4	3
Grand Total	154	177	220	258	222	227

Membership Sources



Thanks to Peter Seto (Mount Royal University), CIRPA Vice-President, for the provision of this data at the Spring CIRPA Executive meeting.

*Kristen and Joan would like to once again thank members for their contributions to this newsletter. We look forward to your submissions (research, editorials, monographs, practitioner guides, etc.) for the **Summer 2011** issue. Submissions should be themed on the topic: "the future of institutional research".*

CIRPA Executive

President (Term 2009-11)

[Cameron Tilson](#), Concordia University

Vice-President (Term 2009-11)

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Treasurer (Term 2009-11)

[Caroline Lachance](#), Association of Universities and College of Canada (AUCC)

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2011 Conference Co-Chairs – Fredericton, New Brunswick

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[Garry Hansen](#), St. Thomas University

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